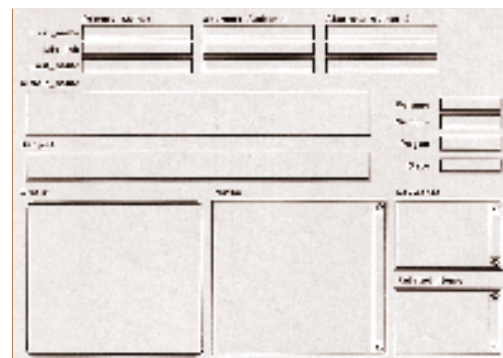


The CRM Index Database Joint Project with the NPS



In addition to working on this thematic issue of *CRM*, members of the Historic Preservation Program (HPP) of the University of Oregon have been involved in developing an index database for *CRM*. In February of 1994, students began indexing all the articles published from 1978 through 1994.

Description and Review of the Index Project

When first conceived, the index was envisioned as being a comprehensive document, listing all articles, reviews and news items contained in *CRM* by subject and keyword in addition to the expected author/article title/location references. Originally, we only considered simply listing the data in a static word processing document, but quickly realized that entry of the data into a database would make it possible to eventually distribute the index as an electronic, interactive stand-alone document. The index could even be formatted for inclusion on academic library databases such as First Search, the Expanded Academic Index (which indexes about 1,500 journals), or CARL UnCover (indexes about 14,000 journals).

Given the advantages of entering the data into a database, we chose Claris Filemaker Pro for its ease of use and cross-platform compatibility. Filemaker also confers the ability to distribute the index in a "run-time" format, where a user would not need to have the application to use the database; a version of the application with limited functionality would be included with the index database. After receiving two full complements of *CRM*, we started work on entering data, and designing and testing the database.

The project had several phases which overlapped and influenced each other:

- the definition of the data,
- the functionality of the database,
- entering the data,
- layout and presentation of the data,
- proofing the entered data and
- testing and confirming the functionality.

Despite the complexity of the task and constrained resources (computing power, time, and

people available), most of the tasks were accomplished; some tasks have been deferred, and notes made on how to accomplish them when resources become available.

Data Definition and Inclusion

As noted in the overview below, the way the data was perceived and entered changed over time. Another issue was the human factor of perception and judgment: while most articles clearly fit into definite subject areas, different participants entering data and assigning the subjects might perceive an article differently and quite reasonably assign other or additional subjects to an article. This issue was resolved by using a standard (and limited) list of subjects, and having the subject entries reviewed by at least two other persons.

Resolving the subject issue was fairly straightforward, but the problem of determining and assigning keywords for a given article was much more complex. The problem with assigning keywords has two major components:

- determining if the article actually contains the appropriate keyword(s) or if the article can be more accurately represented by keywords not found in the article; and
- deciding what is the best process for searching and determining the appropriate keyword(s) either by visually scanning the article and assigning words; or automating the process as much as possible—scanning the article into text files and performing searches for keywords.

Given the complexities of determining keywords, we decided to concentrate on the more basic and achievable tasks of simply getting the articles entered, subjects assigned, and the entries checked for accuracy. That task is complete.

Status of the Index

Despite the absence of keywords and references to sources other than articles, the index is substantially and functionally complete at this time. All the articles from 1978 through 1994 have been entered and can be listed in a variety of formats, including by subject, author, date, or many combinations of those formats. The index as cur-

rently configured can be used immediately to generate listings by author, date, etc. The ability to search by keyword is important enough that it should not be abandoned, but should be approached deliberately—and finished when more resources and expertise are available.

The index was shipped to the National Park Service in February 1995, and the means and schedule of publication and distribution are currently being explored.

Acknowledgements

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Overview of the Index

The database contains the information about the articles in CRM. The database is extendible—other categories of information (such as authors' biographic data, address, illustrations, etc.) can be added to the records. The layout of information in the main database file can be changed to accommodate new categories of information. For instance, the file initially contained space for only one author per article; the layout of the database was reconfigured to accommodate multiple authors. Subsequent records then had the capability to list either single or multiple authors. The layouts listed above represent different ways of configuring and displaying the data according to a given category; other configurations are also possible. The database can be used on computers supporting either the Microsoft Windows or Apple Macintosh interfaces. Data can be exported to other applications, such as other databases, word processors, or desktop publishing/page layout programs.

Ken Guzowski and Richa Wilson

The Eugene Masonic Cemetery Partnerships in Rural Cemetery Preservation



Stone grave marker showing typical problems of spalling, erosion, and invasive plant growth.

Those of us who work in cultural resource protection are becoming more dependent on cooperative relationships with other organizations, public entities, and private groups to accomplish varied historic preservation goals. Since September of 1993, the City of Eugene has been an active partner in a community effort to protect, restore, and maintain the vandalized and deteriorated Masonic Cemetery in Eugene, Oregon. This 10-acre hillside cemetery was established in 1859 and contains burial plots and markers for many of Eugene's pioneer families. A walk through the cemetery brings to light the names of past citizens which read like a street map of the city.

When the cemetery was established it was located in the outskirts of town. Following World War II and the explosive growth of that era, the slopes and flatlands of this area filled in with resi-

dential development that surrounded the cemetery. Over time local residents came to think of the cemetery as a private park where they could stroll, walk their dogs, and enjoy the ever-changing ecology of the site. Unfortunately, an unsavory element of local society also discovered the opportunity to conduct nefarious acts of vandalism. Because the cemetery never embraced perpetual care practices, which became popular in the 1940s and 1950s, vandalism was not assuaged by maintenance. For decades monuments and grave markers have been toppled, broken, and stolen. The Hope Abbey Mausoleum was particularly subject to serious abuse. Its magnificent bronze doors became torn and shredded from pry bars, while the poured concrete walls of the mausoleum took on layer after layer of paint to cover the endless graffiti (see sidebar).

In 1993, City Councilor Barbara Keller, a neighbor of the cemetery and ward representative,